

**TOWN OF CANAJOHARIE**  
**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**  
**August 2, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Town Council was held at the Town office building, 12 Mitchell Street, Canajoharie.

**Present:** Supervisor Herbert Allen, Councilmen William Armitstead, John Toomey, Jr. and Rodney Young; Bookkeeper Amy Kretser, Assessor Charlene Ruszkowski, Highway Superintendent Eric Bowerman, and Attorney Daniel Vincelette.

Mr. Allen opened the meeting at 7:30 PM and presented the evening's **agenda**.

On a motion by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilman Armitstead, the agenda was accepted as presented.

On a motion by Councilman Toomey, seconded by Councilman Armitstead, the minutes of the July meeting were unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilman Toomey made a motion to enter executive session to discuss litigation regarding assessments. Councilman Armitstead seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Executive session was entered at 7:32 PM.

At 8:45, Supervisor Allen made a motion to exit executive session, seconded by Councilman Toomey and approved by all.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**OLD OR NEW BUSINESS**

**West Hill School**

A motion was made by Councilman Toomey for a Resolution to encourage efforts of West Hill School building. Supervisor Allen seconded the motion; all were in favor.

**CHA/HUD**

A question of the Town of Canajoharie having a role with the Canajoharie Housing Authority was initiated by a letter from Ronald Dievendorf, Chairman of the CHA Advisory Board. Councilman Toomey has been on the CHA Board for 32 years, attending three meetings and was asked to a meeting this year. In the past, when the Town was asked to participate in HUD housing, it opted out. This was because CHA units were restricted to Villages of Canajoharie and Ames. At this time, the CHA has asked the Town if any change to the original stipulation, that it does not want to be involved, has been made. No record of such a change has been located. At this point, the Town wishes to stay uninvolved. A letter will be written to Mr. Dievendorf.

**Wilcox Land dispute**

Highway Superintendent Bowerman and Supervisor Allen met with Martin Wilcox regarding his property which abuts the Town garage property, and replaced the pole where it should belong after measurements were made. All parties are satisfied.

## **PLANNING/ZONING**

### **Planning Board vacancy**

Amy Kretser informed the Council that Bill Douglass has expressed an interest in filing the empty seat on the Planning Board, and has approached Ivor Jones.

Councilman Armitstead made a motion to appoint Bill Douglass to the Planning Board to fill the vacancy left by Bob Crowe, for the new term of 5 years beginning this year.

Councilman Young seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

## **BUILDINGS**

It was agreed that all shutters on the Town Hall be taken down and any in need of repair, taken to Chuck Jones. John Walsh will paint them.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Councilman Young, seconded by Supervisor Allen and approved by all at 9:00 PM to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel/employee contracts.

Executive Session ended at 9:30 PM with a motion by Councilman Young and seconded by Supervisor Allen; all in favor.

## **TOWN CLERK**

Clerk Susan Smith requested a resolution allowing postage meter funds to be added without prior approval, if the funds run out between Council meetings.

Councilman Toomey made the motion that funds may be added to the postage meter before abstract review and approval. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armitstead, and all were in favor.

## **BOOKKEEPER**

Amy Kretser submitted her monthly report in writing, and made note that it includes fund transfers that will need to be approved with the bills.

## **HIGHWAY**

Highway Superintendent Eric Bowerman gave his monthly report of Highway activity. He asked the Council if they would like to continue using Suburban Propane, or to put the propane contract out to bid. It was decided to put it out for bids, to be opened at the September meeting at 7:30. A notice will be placed in the paper.

Mr. Bowerman outlined several problems with trucks needing extensive repairs, one a cracked box that would cost \$6,639.00 plus labor to repair, or \$24,800 to replace.

FEMA funds received to date total \$86,651.60.

Mr. Bowerman made the following proposal to the Council for a way to distribute the FEMA money:

\$415 to Garage budget line, from loss of water heater

\$500 to equipment line

\$24,190.48 to the DB to establish a capital reserve fund for road projects, and cushion for unexpected problems such as another storm.

\$42,941 to pay off the current truck loan ahead of schedule, saving interest.

The Council spent some time discussing various distributions for the FEMA money, keeping in mind the limitations on how it can be used.

Supervisor Allen made a motion to go out for bids on a new truck. Councilman Toomey seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Councilman Armitstead made a motion to order a new box for one truck. The motion was seconded by Councilman Toomey and all were in favor.

The old sander and gas tank will be auctioned online.

### **BILLS/TRANSFERS**

The clerk submitted the following bill vouchers for payment approval:

Highway fund vouchers #182 through #202, totaling \$15,467.97, and

General fund vouchers #144 through #160, totaling \$13,621.27

Supervisor Allen made a motion to accept and pay the bills as presented, and also to approve the fund transfers on the bookkeeper's cash report.

Councilman Toomey seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Councilman Toomey made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Allen. All were in favor; the meeting ended at 10:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan H. Smith  
Town Clerk